

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of assessing whether a patient is afflicted with cervical carcinoma ~~cervical cancer or has a pre-malignant condition~~, the method comprising comparing:

- a) the level of expression of a marker in a patient cervical sample, wherein the marker is the M666 marker, ~~selected from the group consisting of the markers listed in Table 1, and~~
- b) the level of expression of the marker in a normal control cervical ~~cancer~~ sample, wherein a significant difference between the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample and in the normal control cervical sample level is an indication that the patient is afflicted with cervical carcinoma ~~cervical cancer or has a pre-malignant condition~~.

2-4. **(Cancelled)**

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the patient cervical sample comprises cervical cells obtained from the patient.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 5, wherein the patient cervical sample is a cervical smear.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 5, wherein the cervical cells are in a fluid selected from the group consisting of a fluid collected by peritoneal rinsing, a fluid collected by uterine rinsing, a uterine fluid, a uterine exudate, a pleural fluid, a cystic fluid, and an cervical exudate.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the patient cervical sample of a protein corresponding to the marker.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 8, wherein the presence of the protein is detected using a reagent which specifically binds with the protein, wherein the reagent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, an antibody derivative, and an antibody fragment.

10. **(Cancelled)**

11. **(Withdrawn; Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide or portion thereof, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide comprises the marker.

12. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 11, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is an mRNA.

13. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 11, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is a cDNA.

14. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 11, wherein the step of detecting further comprises amplifying the transcribed polynucleotide.

15. **(Withdrawn; Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide which anneals with the marker or anneals with a portion of a polynucleotide wherein the polynucleotide comprises the marker, under stringent hybridization conditions.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample differs from the ~~normal~~ level of expression of the marker in the normal control cervical sample ~~a patient not afflicted with cervical cancer~~ by a factor of at least about 2.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the patient cervical sample differs from the ~~normal~~ level of expression of the marker the normal control cervical sample ~~a patient not afflicted with cervical cancer~~ by a factor of at least about 5.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, further comprising comparing:
a) the level of expression in the patient cervical sample of each of a plurality of markers independently selected from the markers listed in Table 1, and
b) the level of expression of each of the plurality of markers in ~~samples of the same type obtained from normal control human-cervical samples~~,
wherein a significant difference between the level of expression of more than one of the markers in the patient cervical sample and in the normal control cervical sample ~~is significantly altered, relative to the corresponding normal levels of expression of the markers,~~ is an indication that the patient is afflicted with cervical carcinoma ~~cervical cancer or has a pre-malignant condition~~.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 18, wherein a significant difference between the level of expression of each of the markers in the patient cervical sample and the normal control cervical sample ~~is significantly altered, relative to the corresponding normal levels of expression of the markers,~~ is an indication that the patient is afflicted with cervical carcinoma ~~cervical cancer~~.

20. **(Original)** The method of claim 18, wherein the plurality comprises at least three of the markers.

21. **(Original)** The method of claim 18, wherein the plurality comprises at least five of the markers.

22-48. **(Cancelled)**

49. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the cervical carcinoma ~~cancer~~ is adenocarcinoma.

50. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the cervical carcinoma ~~cancer~~ is squamous cell carcinoma.

51. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 5, wherein the patient cervical sample comprises a cervical ~~an~~ adenocarcinoma cell.

52. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 5, wherein the patient cervical sample comprises a cervical squamous cell.

53. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 51, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the cervical adenocarcinoma cell differs from the normal level of expression of the marker in a patient not afflicted with cervical cancer by a factor of at least about 2.

54. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 52, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the cervical squamous cell differs from the normal level of expression of the marker in a patient not afflicted with cervical cancer by a factor of at least about 2.

55. **(Withdrawn)** A kit for performing the method of claim 1, the kit comprising reagents for assessing expression of a marker selected from the group consisting of the markers listed in Table 1.

56. **(New)** The method of claim 5, wherein the patient cervical sample comprises a cervical epithelial cell.